

## Message Text

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14

ORIGIN NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 SR-02 ORM-03 AID-20 /139 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/ PAB: RAPECK: MRC  
5/18/73 EXT 20466  
APPROVED BY NEA/ AMBASSADOR MEYER  
NEA/ PAB: LBLAINGEN  
NEA/ INS: JHAWES  
S/ S - MR. BARNES  
WHITE HOUSE - MR. SAUNDERS

----- 005725

R 221959 Z MAY 73  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY DACCA  
INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 097981

E. O. 11652 GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, PK  
SUBJECT: SIDDIQUI CALL ON PRESIDENT

REF: STATE 89887 AND 90628; GENEVA 2315

1. PRIME MINISTER MUJIB'S SPECIAL ENVOY M. R. SIDDIQUI  
MADE BRIEF CALL ON PRESIDENT MAY 17. IN ADDITION TO DELIV-  
ERING LETTER FROM MUJIB, SIDDIQUI PRESENTED BANGLADESH CASE  
ON REPATRIATION ISSUES ALONG FAMILIAR LINES ( SEE REFTELS).  
PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE WE ATTACH TO PROGRESS  
TOWARD PEACE IN SOUTH ASIA, INDICATED WE DID NOT INTEND  
TO BECOME INVOLVED, BUT EXPRESSED HOPE SOUTH ASIAN  
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NATIONS COULD FIND BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS.

2. IN CHAT WITH AMBASSADOR MEYER AND COUNTRY DIRECTOR LAINGEN AFTER WHITE HOUSE SESSION, SIDDIQUI AND AMBASSADOR ALI STATED BDG WOULD PREFER INDIA NOT TALK ALONE WITH PAKISTAN. SIDDIQUI ARGUED THERE EXIST " MANY AVENUES" FOR CONTACTS THROUGH THIRD PARTIES, BUT FELT THAT INDO- BANGLA- DESH PARTNERSHIP IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS MADE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS EXCLUDING BDG INAPPROPRIATE. AS SIDDIQUI PUT IT, QUESTION OF RECOGNITION " NO LONGER OF CONCERN" TO BDG, BUT PAKISTANI INSISTENCE ON TALKING ONLY WITH INDIANS ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF ARROGANCE WHICH ALREADY CAUSED MUCH TROUBLE.

3. LAINGEN POINTED OUT THAT DESPITE PUBLICLY EXPRESSED PAK DIFFICULTY WITH LATEST INDIAN POSITION, GOP HAD NOT YET RESPONDED PRIVATELY AND APPARENTLY REMAINED OPEN TO TALKS WITH INDIANS. WITH RECOGNITION ISSUE NO LONGER BAR TO MOVEMENT, WE HOPED PROCESS OF RECONCILIATION WOULD NOT NOW GET STUCK AGAIN ON NEW PROCEDURAL ISSUE, THIS TIME THE QUESTION OF WHO WOULD TALK WITH AND FOR WHOM.

4. SIDDIQUI SAID HE WAS TOLD IN N. Y. THAT UN WAS SENDING REPRESENTATIVE TO SOUTH ASIA TO HELP ICRC FACILITATE PROPOSED LIMITED EXCHANGE OF BENGALIS FOR PAK CIVILIANS. HE ALSO HAD IMPRESSION UN REP MIGHT OFFER TO ASSIST ON LARGER REPATRIATION PROBLEM. NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS CONSTITUTES REFERENCE TO " SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITIES" WALDHEIM REPORTEDLY ASSIGNING TO UNHCR AGA KHAN ACCORDING TO GENEVA REFTEL. RUSH

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NMAFVVZCZ

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\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Subject:** SIDDIQUI CALL ON PRESIDENT  
**TAGS:** PFOR, BG, IN, PK  
**To:** DACCA  
GENEVA  
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LONDON  
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USUN NEW YORK  
**Type:** TE

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